

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 ACDA-19 NIC-01 EB-11 FAA-00 DRC-01 /146 W

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R 271245Z DEC 73

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2779

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

CINCEUR FOR POLAD AND OPS

CINCUSAFE FOR POLAD AND OPS

CINCUSAFEUR FOR POLAD OPS AEAGG OCO AND DCSI

USMISSION NATO

USELMLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L 2186

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, WB, GW

SUBJECT: GDR CONTROL OVER ACCESS TO BERLIN

REF: ASB MESSAGE TO LIVE OAK 201113Z DEC

1. REFERENCED MESSAGE, WHICH WE NOTE WAS SENT TO ALL ELEMENTS OF LIVE OAK AND HAS SINCE BEEN REPEATED TO ADDITIONAL ADDRESSEES, WAS NOT DISCUSSED WITH ALLIED MISSIONS IN BERLIN. IT CONTAINS COMPENDIUM OF INCIDENTS AFFECTING ACCESS ROUTES AS WELL AS ACCESS TO EAST BERLIN, AND ALLIED AS WELL AS GERMAN CIVILIAN TRAFFIC. MESSAGE CONCLUDES THAT EAST GERMANS, POSSIBLY WITH SUPPORT OF SOVIETS, MAY BE ATTEMPTING TO INCREASE CONTROL OVER ALLIED TRAFFIC TO EAST AND WEST BERLIN.

2. U.S. MISSION HAS FOR ABOUT A YEAR MAINTAINED LOG
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OF INCIDENTS, INCLUDING THOSE NOTED IN REF, IN ORDER

TO BE ABLE BETTER TO DETERMINE IF AND WHEN GDR MIGHT UNDERTAKE ACTS OF SUCH A NATURE AS TO CALL FOR INVOKING QUADRIpartite DECLARATION OF NOVEMBER 1972. AS INDICATED IN MISSION'S ANNUAL ASSESMENT (BERLIN 2159 PARA 5), WE ARE FAR FROM SANGUINE THAT QD WILL PROVE SUFFICIENT DETERRENT TO GDR ATTEMPTS TO INJECT VOICE INTO PROCESSING OF TRAFFIC OR AIR CONTROL ARRANGEMENTS, OR TO ATTEMPTS TO RESTRICT ALLIED PRACTICES IN EAST BERLIN. SUBJECT IS ADDRESSED REGULARLY AT TRIPARTITE ALLIED MISSION MEETINGS. ALTHOUGH FRENCH HAVE BEEN SLIGHTLY MORE INCLINED THAN BRITISH OR OURSELVES TO SEE DANGER SIGNALS, CONSENSUS REMAINS THAT NO CLEAR PATTERN HAS DEVELOPED. EACH OF INCIDENTS TO DATE APPEARS SUI GENERIS, WITH POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF DELAYS TO GERMAN TRUCK TRAFFIC, WITH MAY BE RELATED TO GDR ANNOYANCE WITH FRG NON-NOTIFICATION OF SUNDAY DRIVING BAN AS WELL AS TO WEATHER. OF INCIDENTS RELATED REFTEL, WE REGARD THAT IN PARA 3 (6) (BERLIN 2146) AS MOST SERIOUS, BUT NOTE THAT PRECEDENTS AND/OR EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES HELP EXPLAIN OTHERS.

3. GDR OFFICIALS, EVENT WITHOUT MALICE AFORETHOUGHT, COULD BE EXPECTED TO FEEL THEIR OATS IN LIGHT OF UN ENTRY AND FULL INTERNATIONAL RECOGNIZATION. (WE WERE RECENTLY INOFRMEED SOVIETS COMPLAINED TO BRIXMISS OFFICE TO THIS EFFECT*) BUT, BY SAME TOKEN, ALLIES ARE ESPECIALLY WATCHFUL FOR SIGNS OF DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL

PRACTICES.

4. IN OUR BEST JUDGMENT, TAKING ALL OF ABOVE INTO ACCOUNT, CONCLUSION REFTEL NOT YET WARANTED. WE RECOMMEND THAT WE CONTINUE TO TREAT ALL INCIDENTS SERIOUSLY AS THEY ARISE, REGISTERING PROMPT PROTESTS TO SOVIETS WHERE APPROPRIATE. IF OUR MONITORING OF SITUATION REVEALS CAUSE FOR CONCERN, WE WILL OF COURSE FLAG DEVELOPMENTS PROMPTLY, BUT WE SEE NON NEED AT THIS JUNCTURE FOR ADDITIONAL MEASURES.

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4. USCOB CONCURS.KLEIN

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